

GOVERNMENT OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS OF THE UNITED STATES -----0------

DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND NATURAL RESOURCES

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Friday, September 26, 2014

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BEACH ADVISORY

The Department of Planning and Natural Resources (DPNR) announces that the Beach Water Quality Monitoring Program, which evaluates weekly water quality at popular swimming beaches throughout the Territory, advises the public of the following:

DPNR performed water quality analysis at the 33designated beaches throughout the Territory during the week of September 22-26, 2014. The following beaches **meet water quality standards and are safe for swimming or fishing**:

St. Croix

| Stony Ground | Cane Bay | Frederiksted Public Beach |
|-----------------|----------------------|---------------------------|
| Dorsch Beach | Cramer's Park | Pelican Cove (Comorant) |
| Protestant Cay | Rainbow Beach | Princess (Condo Row) |
| Chenay Bay | Shoy's Beach | Halfpenny Beach |
| Buccaneer Beach | New Fort (Ft. Louise | Grapetree Bay |
| | Augusta) | |

St. Thomas

| Water Bay | Bluebeard's Beach | Hull Bay |
|----------------|-------------------|----------------|
| Sapphire Beach | Coki Point | Brewer's Bay |
| Magen's Bay | Frenchman's Bay | Linquist Beach |
| Vessup Bay | Lindberg Bay | Bolongo Bay |
| Secret Harbor | • • | - |

St. John

Hart Bay Cruz Bay Great Cruz Bay Johnson's Bay Oppenheimer Beach

In anticipation of heavy rains this weekend, DPNR advises the public to refrain from using areas that are affected by storm-water runoff until these effects subside. Parents are advised to instruct their children to keep away from storm-water-impacted beaches as well as areas with manholes and storm-water flooding.

There may be an elevated health risk to anyone swimming in storm-water-impacted areas as a result of increased concentrations of bacteria. All persons should also be aware that storm-water runoff may also contain contaminants or pollutants harmful to human health and therefore all persons should avoid areas of storm-water runoff (i.e. guts, puddles, and drainage basins).

DPNR will continue to monitor the impacted areas and waters. For additional information regarding water quality call the Division of Environmental Protection at 773-1082 in St. Croix.